

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This paper responds to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment of 12/30/2004, and represents the claim amendments that were originally filed in the Amendment in Response to Restriction Requirement filed on December 10, 2004. This paper is timely.

The Remarks/Arguments of December 10, 2004 demonstrate that the proposed grouping of the claims is incorrect, that the search classification of several groups is incorrect, and that division of the groups is unwarranted. Applicant elects Groups II and III as modified (claims 186-263), subject to the traverse noted in the December paper.

Applicant requests that the application be passed to issue in due course. The Examiner is urged to telephone Applicant's undersigned counsel at the number noted below if it will advance the prosecution of this application, or with any suggestion to resolve any condition that would impede allowance. In the event that any extension of time is required, Applicant petitions for that extension of time required to make this response timely. Kindly charge any additional fee, or credit any surplus, to Deposit Account No. 23-2405, Order No. 114459-05-E3.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: January 26, 2005

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